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or the user 210 whenever the clients 310 need to look up a tool 240 or to verify nodes 130. An example of tool definition is described in United States patent application of Lister, Sanchez, Drees, and Finz, Application Serial No. 09/800,316, entitled "Service Control Manager Tool Definition," and filed on March 6, 2001, which is incorporated herein by reference. The validation of the task information may include checking whether the nodes requested are the managed nodes, whether the tool actually exists, and whether the required arguments of the tool are given.--

### Remarks

The above amendment is made in order to correct an inadvertent error, which occurred in the incorporation by reference of a co-pending application. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the above, but rather that the above merely corrects the Official Record.

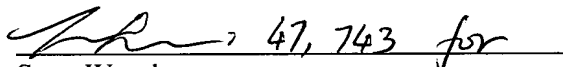
Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested and Applicants await the Examiner's first Official Action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

**Terrance E. LISTER, et al.**

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